

But let us make up our minds to yield no more, but pray to the Lord for deliverance on such occasions.

Young people have many such trials that our older brothers and sisters do not have. We may have invitations from our social companions to join them in seeking pleasure in worldly amusements, and some of us do, but in such cases it is almost impossible to distinguish between the church and the world. One of my friends, a member of the Christian church greatly surprised me. She invited me to attend a social. I refused to attend, telling her that our minister would preach on that evening. She then looked at me with a frown on her beautiful face, and said: "I don't see why you always want to go to church, Emma, I would rather go to a social! I don't care much for church and I simply despise prayer-meeting! In fact, I would rather go any other place, than to prayer-meeting." So many young people would rather go some other place than to prayer-meeting. Prayer-meeting! Even the name is beautiful. Prayer! Prayer! Much prayer to him who knows the hearts and lives of all his people. We can not pray too much. "Pray without ceasing." It matters not whether we stand, kneel, walk or ride, just so the heart is lifted in prayer to Jesus.

"They that seek the throne of grace,
Find that throne in every place;
If we live a life of prayer,
God is present everywhere."

We gain so much strength from prayer. What would we do without it? I am afraid we would have to perish by the hands of our enemies. What is sweeter, than to talk to Jesus? Nothing, unless it is to have Jesus talk to us through his Holy Book. Everything is lovely where the benevolent face of Jesus appears. Jesus! Jesus! The very name makes me think of life and beauty. How sweet was the perfume that came from the crushed flower on the cross: "Father, forgive them, they know not what they do." Who, then can leave Jesus for worldly amusements. God's people are intended to shine—to be "bright with borrowed rays divine." Darkness covers the earth and gross darkness the people. Hence, the need of light. To this end Christ says: "Let your light so shine before men that they may see your good works and glorify your Father which is in heaven." Are we letting our lights shine,—helping to roll back the thick darkness of the world? May God help us to realize the fulness of these words, making us "as the sun when he goes forth in his might." The dear Master help us all to endure as

seeing him that is invisible! The time is short—watch unto prayer that ye enter not into temptation—endure to the end! Lakeville, Ind.

THE SUNDAY-SCHOOL.

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It is almost universally conceded that the Sunday-school is the greatest auxiliary to the church, whether considered from a spiritual, moral or intellectual point of view. The early training of the Sunday-school leaves an everlasting imprint on the fallow ground of the youthful heart and mind. It is where the child first learns to study the word of God. It is where he learns to raise his voice in praise to the King of kings. It is where he is taught to reverently bow his head as he lisps, "Our Father." Impressions made in childhood often bear heaviest weight on after life. Hence the Sunday-school should aim at perfection as its standard of excellence. This standard cannot be approached without consecrated leaders. We teach by example as well as precept. The superintendent who is sanctimonious only on the Sabbath day, and teaches purity only one day in the week and practices its opposite the other six can have little influence with his school. Children can observe inconsistencies in their elders and these observances soon shatter and uproot faith. If it be possible, even more responsibility rests with the teacher. He is the organ through which the word is transmitted to the scholar. In order to make the mysteries of the word plain, the teacher must give much thought to the lesson. He should be thoroughly conversant with the Bible and allow his views to broaden enough to respect those of others, avoiding as much as possible arguments that may lead to unpleasantness. Punctuality and regularity in attendance are important factors and a stronghold of the teacher.

Perhaps the primary teacher is more responsible than any other, and for this reason one should be selected who can command the love and confidence of the children, one who understands the art of becoming a child with them and who has the power of clothing in plain and simple language the wonderful truths of the scriptures.

Good singing and music are inspiring and creates life and interest. Tediumness should be avoided and the school should never be held overtime. The success of the Sunday-school is further dependent upon the parents and members of the church. Parents should take their children to Sunday-school instead of sending them. Recent statistics show

that two-thirds of the children in the state of Indiana are not in the Sunday-school. Does this not find an open field for laborers? Let us each ask ourselves if we are doing what we can to make the Sunday-school a success.

The future church depends upon the coming generations, and through the medium of the Sunday-school we may hope to accomplish more than by any other means for by training the little ones aright, we may guide them when older to follow in the footsteps of the lowly and despised man of Nazareth.

THE SABBATH.

The holy Sabbath is our nation's citadel, its strong tower. This bulwark is now being assailed by various forms of human devices. Evil in the unregenerate heart is the chief reason of this antagonism. In no other way can we explain it. Strange it is, indeed, that such a gift to the race should be so much despised. The enemies of the Sabbath are lying in ambush all around us, ready to rush forth at any moment and join together to destroy it. We are not, like the pilgrim fathers, summoned to seize carnal weapons. Ours is an age when appeal is to be made on the highest moral and spiritual grounds. Still we do need their courage and reverence for sacred things. We must, like our forefathers in the battles which they fought, be united. We like them, must be constantly on the watch-tower. Unless we are thus vigilant, the foes of the day will gain unexpected advantage.

After all, is not the great peril more within than without the Sabbath citadel? The brave Gordon was safe so long as secret betrayal within the fort did not threaten. When this came he was obliged to yield. Is it not likely to prove thus in regard to God's holy day? We fear for the Sabbath because of worldly practices among those who should hallow it, and because weak consciences are yielding to outward pressure. We are more in danger here than in open assault. How may these tendencies be arrested? Physical force will not avail. Arguments drawn from mere expediency or physical health or present advantage are insufficient. The arm of civil law will utterly fail. Truth lodged in the soul—truth moving the conscience—will be effectual, and only this. Christians who have fallen into wrong habits can be recovered only by divinely wrought convictions in respect to Sabbath observance. To produce such convictions is the important work of the home, the school, and the church.